



COAST
CONNECTIONS
monthly newsletter



Women's Politics in the Age of
Eleanor Roosevelt

With guest speaker Sarah Case, PhD
UCSB Department of History

November 10, 2016 • 7pm

**Goleta Public Library, Multipurpose Room
500 N Fairview Ave, Goleta**

Join us as we discuss the changing role of women in politics in the early twentieth century. Our focus will be on how several prominent women, including Eleanor Roosevelt, served as a bridge between Progressive Era women's politics and the New Deal of the 1930s. We will also consider Roosevelt's work after her husband's presidency. We will conclude with a brief consideration of women's involvement in today's politics, and some of the issues women in the political arena still face.

Free event hosted by:



President's Message

Our Kick Off program at the end of September was a big success! We had over thirty people in attendance and we spent the evening getting to know one another and learning more about our wonderful branch. Take a look at some pictures from the night: [click here](#).

I hope to see many of you at our upcoming program on Nov 10 at the Goleta Library. Please be sure to [share the flyer](#) and encourage your friends to attend – it will definitely be an interesting lecture on a very timely topic.

We have a very vibrant branch with amazing members and I am so thankful for each and every one of you. During the month of November when we celebrate Thanksgiving, I couldn't think of a better time to send out a special thank you message.

Thank you to Barbara Levi and the entire Tech Trek committee (E. Onja Brown, Diane Green, Caroline Harrah, Rae Hoyt, Carol Koch, Kathy Mintzer, Bobbie Offen, Dena Stein, Irene Stone, Kate Thompson) for your hard work selecting girls to send to camp, working with the teachers and schools in our area, organizing events for the girls throughout the year and providing support to the camp at UCSB. Thank you to Carol Koch for volunteering as a dorm mom this year. And especially important, sending 28 girls to camp would not be possible without Beverly Kowalsky Ching's tireless fundraising efforts and for that I am very appreciative!

Thank you to Barbara Siegel, Martha Royer and Jane Honikman for establishing our new Neighborhood Groups. I think this is a wonderful way for members to get to know each other better and stay connected.

2016-17 OFFICERS

President:

Jill Kingdon

Secretary:

Diane Green

Treasurer:

Carol Thompson

Asst. Treasurer:

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Membership:

Ginny Capra

Parliamentarian:

Claire Van Blaricum

Tech Trek:

Barbara Levi

Beverly

Kowalsky-Ching

Members-at-Large:

Jane Honikman

Martha Lannan

Elly Rumelt

Dot Salogga

Newsletter Editor:

Susan Engles

Scholarship Chair:

Ann Lippincott

Directory:

Ginny Capra

Thank you to Ginny Capra, our Membership Chair, and Carol Thompson for maintaining our growing membership, reaching out for renewals and all your recruitment efforts.

Thank you to Susan Engles, our Newsletter Editor, for learning a completely new system for creating and sending our newsletters this year. This has enabled us to stay in better touch with our members.

Thank you to Cathy Black, Janice Rorick, Claire VanBlaricum for your continued commitment to our Interbranch Council, keeping us in touch with the other branches in our county.

Thank you to our interest group chairs: Beverly Kowalsky Ching for Movie Night & Craft Group, Jane DeSelm for Book Ends, Elly Rumelt for Smart Talk and especially Tanda Jacobs for taking on Outings and Dena Stein for taking on Lunch Bunch. Without these leaders, these groups would not exist.

Thank you to Sophia Gemenez, our new student liason at UCSB, for keeping us in touch with the students and collaborating with our branch.

Thank you to Pam Holst, Clover Gowing, Diane Green, and Ellen Zissler for volunteering to help at our programs and events which help them run smoothly.

And a very special thank you to all the members of the Steering Committee listed to the right. You each bring unique skills and expertise to our team

and I very much enjoy working with you. Thank you for your leadership and ability to work together and accomplish so much for our branch while working towards the AAUW mission to empower women and girls.

Thank you to all our members for being a part of the Santa Barbara - Goleta Valley AAUW branch!

Jill Kingdon

jill@dowitcherdesigns.com

(805) 455-7890



Annual Holiday Party - December 1

Please save the date for our annual holiday party on Dec 1 at Susan Engles' home. Look for an evite later in November. We hope to see you there!



Preserving the Right to Run



AAUW has a long history of supporting female candidates for both elective and appointive office. In November 1920, only three months after women won the right to vote, the *Journal of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae* (a publication



of AAUW's predecessor organization) encouraged women to pursue politics as a profession. In her article, Marguerite Arnold referenced the 19th Amendment, commonly nicknamed for one of its staunchest champions: "With the passage of the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, 26 million women became voters and citizens. Yet few women, engrossed in the question of to vote or not to vote, realize the enormous professional field open to them thus automatically — the field of practical politics."

Arnold described the variety of positions in politics at all levels — local, state, and national — and noted that although a woman had yet to run for president at the time of her writing, a woman had already been elected to Congress. She also alerted readers that there were 531 congressional positions open for which women could become "increasingly and rightly eligible." Offering advice on finding training grounds for political office, she wrote about the political science courses then being taught at universities and urged women to seek out internships and field studies in order to gain practical experience they would not get from a classroom. "A movement," she wrote, "has begun to coordinate the theoretical work of universities with the actual work in government."

Throughout the following decades, AAUW continued to support women's entry into politics. In the 1930s, under the direction of the Committee on the Economic and Legal Status of Women, AAUW implemented a roster program wherein members created and distributed rosters of women who were qualified for public office to Republicans, Democrats, and administrative officials looking to appoint women to local and national positions. In 1947, AAUW passed a resolution that officially added "seeking out and supporting women for office" to our bylaws.

After the resolution was passed, AAUW leadership urged members to spring into action. One letter from the AAUW general director in 1947 referenced the roster program: "In many states, new governors will be going into office in 1947. The new governors will be making new appointments. See or write to these men at an early date laying before them the Association's wish to have able women appointed and giving them your rosters and recommendations on women qualified for state office."

Similarly, AAUW's national leaders wrote to presidential candidates and incumbents reminding them of qualified women who would make excellent choices for the cabinet and other appointive positions. These letters are in AAUW's archives. In a 1952 letter to General Dwight Eisenhower, Rosamond Ramsay Boyd, chair of the AAUW Status of Women Committee, urged Eisenhower to make "full use of qualified women" during his first campaign for the presidency. Following Eisenhower's election, she continued to correspond with him and recommended several women for him to appoint.

Apparently, Eisenhower listened to AAUW's advice. Not only did he hold well-publicized breakfasts with women leaders from the Republican party and civic organizations throughout his two terms, but he also appointed the country's first female White House press secretary, Anne Williams Wheaton. Throughout his presidency he appointed 175 women to high-level positions in areas of diplomatic service as well as policy making committees and commissions. Unsurprisingly, many AAUW members were among the appointees, including Bertha Sheppard Adkins, who was appointed as undersecretary of health education and welfare, and AAUW President Anna Rose Hawkes, who was appointed to the U.S. Advisory Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Thankfully, AAUW leaders did not rest there. They remained at work even after women successfully won government offices. An AAUW general director's letter in 1950 urged members to "keep alert — don't let a woman officer's term expire without having laid plans for her return to office or for the appointment or election of another woman to that position. Eternal vigilance is needed!"

The work of ensuring that women have a seat at the table was never done in their eyes, just as it should never be in ours today.

October 5th Outing at the Santa Barbara Courthouse



Top: Tanda Jacobs, Pam Holst, Bobbi Barnfather, Susan Engles and Courthouse Docent Jane DeSelm. *Bottom:* The Mural Room

MEET OUR MEMBER, SUSAN HANNA



Susan was born on October 24th in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to parents of Polish descent. She attended school in the same building for 13 years since her high school, Notre Dame, occupied the top two floors while the grade school, St. Stanislaus, was on the first floor. Her parents owned a tavern where she learned good work ethics. She says, “It took everyone in the family to get the jobs done.”

She has only lived in two places—Milwaukee and Santa Barbara. When she was a child she wanted to be a glamorous airline stewardess but her dreams were crushed when she was told that they did not accept anyone who wore glasses. By the time she started wearing contacts, she decided to become a teacher.

Susan attended Alverno College in Milwaukee and received her BA in 1969 with a major in Elementary Education and minors in both English and History. She taught 3rd grade for 2 ½ years prior to moving to Santa Barbara. She was a stay-at-home mom until her daughter was 15.

Susan met her husband, John, in November of 1972 when he was the best man and she was the maid-of-honor at his brother’s wedding to her best friend. They married in April of 1973 and will be celebrating 45 years in April.

Susan spent 14 years as an administrative assistant to the executive director of Southern California Swimming. It was an opportunity that came along because of her involvement with her children’s swim club.

John and Susan have two children. Michael (43) is single and has a Master’s Degree in electronic warfare. After 15 years at Raytheon, he is now working in San Diego. Their daughter Jennifer is living in Olympia, WA with her husband and two sons, Cole (9) and Ian (7). Jennifer is a circulating operating room nurse.

Susan loves to travel and has gone to Alaska on a Princess cruise to celebrate their 25th anniversary. She and John have traveled to Germany, Denmark and the Czech Republic and says Prague is beautiful. She has also traveled with friends to London and New York and is looking forward to a trip to Las Vegas this November. She also loves to spend time visiting her family in Milwaukee.

She does not have a favorite trip because she loved them all.

Susan loves Italian food especially lasagna but she says pizza is a close second. Her favorite color is a toss-up between pink and purple. Her favorite books are those written by Barbara Taylor Bradford and she especially likes long family sagas. However, she reads many books from all genres. Her favorite movie is "Dirty Dancing" because she loves Patrick Swayze. Susan prefers to listen to Oldies from the 60's. Her hobbies include, tennis, yoga and games. She plays scrabble weekly and bridge bi-weekly. She enjoys playing games and reading on her tablet.

Susan says, when asked why she joined AAUW, that she was pleasantly surprised to find many old friends involved. She enjoys getting together with them as well as meeting new women. She admires what AAUW has accomplished to celebrate women in the community and looks forward to the friendships and camaraderie that being in such an organization provides. Susan hopes to get more involved with AAUW's projects and especially hopes to return to Book Ends, in which she was not able to participate during the summer due to conflicting commitments.

Thank you for your membership Susan!

November, 2016 Calendar

"Autumn is the mellow season, and what we lose in flowers we more than gain in fruits." — Samuel Butler

November 8 – Outing to Santa Cruz Island cancelled

Unfortunately, both piers are closed at Santa Cruz Island. We will consider rescheduling the trip after the first of the year.

November 9, Wednesday – 12:00 noon

Lunch Bunch - Jane, Camino Real Marketplace, Goleta. Please contact Dena Stein at denastein0@gmail.com or 650-269-3666 by Tuesday morning for reservations.

November 10, Thursday – 7:00 p.m.

Program: Women's Politics in the Age of Eleanor Roosevelt

Goleta Public Library, Multipurpose Room

Guest speaker Sarah Case, PhD, UCSB Department of History, will discuss the changing role of women in politics.

November 15, Tuesday – 7:00 p.m.

Book Ends - Our selection for November is *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman and we will meet at the home of Deborah Castorini, 456 Arbol Verde, Carpinteria. Our selection for December will be *Our Souls at Night* by Kent Haruf.

November 16, Wednesday – Noon to 2:00 p.m.

League of Women Voters - Forum on Law Enforcement and Community Relations. Louise Lowry Davis Rec Center, 1232 De La Vina St., Santa Barbara.

November 17, Thursday – 5:00 p.m.

Steering Committee Meeting - The committee will meet at the Dowitcher Designs conference room, 510 State St., Suite 250.

November 21, Monday – 10:00 a.m.

Craft Group - The group meets the third Monday of every month at Beverly Kowalsky-Ching's home, 462 S. San Marcos Rd., Santa Barbara. Call Beverly at 964-5411 for more information.

November 22, Tuesday

Movie Night - Please watch for an email the weekend before for information on the film, time and theater location.

November 28, Monday – 7:00 p.m.

Smart Talk Discussion Group - Smart Talk will meet once in November. The meeting will be at the home of Jane Honikman, 927 Kellogg in Goleta. The topic will be "What this Election Means for American Women." Instead of a meeting on November 14th, members are encouraged to attend the general meeting on November 10th, which will feature a talk on Eleanor Roosevelt.

Empowered Woman Luncheon – Save the Date!

We are honored to have Kelsey Gerckens as our speaker! In 2015, Kelsey won the Amazing Race, a reality tv game show in which teams of two people race around the world in competition with other teams. She is also a KEYT news reporter covering Ventura County and has worked in the journalism field for many years.



**March 8, 2017
(more details coming soon!)**

Our Coalitions

Coalition Against Gun Violence, Pro Choice Coalition,
League of Women Voters

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

Membership in AAUW is open to people who hold an associate degree or higher. Branch membership offers friendship with like-minded people and an arena for making a positive contribution to your community. Benefits include a subscription to California PERSPECTIVE, our quarterly publication. You can join our e-mail lists and attend our annual convention. Membership dues at the branch level include California and National dues.

If you know of someone who you believe would appreciate the opportunity to join our branch, please send them the link to our [website](#) and give her name and contact information to Ginny Capra at ginnycapra@cox.net.